

October 3, 2005

TO: Members of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Board of Incorporators

A Petition from members of the National Council of The John Birch Society, members of our senior staff and Board of Incorporators.

We, the undersigned, hereby respectfully request that Mr. G. Vance Smith resign his positions as Chief Executive Officer and President of the Society.

Mr. Smith has served as the CEO for nearly fourteen years during which time much good has been accomplished. He faithfully kept the Society true to the mission Robert Welch originated. In fact, each CEO and/or President has done the same. These gentlemen, to their great credit, upon stepping down from those positions for whatever reason, have never attempted to harm the Society by their subsequent actions or words.

Several events have transpired in recent weeks to prompt our request. The resignation of Steve Bonta as Administrative Director of Robert Welch University caused much alarm on the part of members of the Council and staff. It unleashed comments and letters to Mr. Smith from key staff members which you have all read.

The reality is that if these individuals are fired or quit, the Society will be in serious jeopardy. The many fine supporters around the nation will have their confidence shaken. Financial support could be eroded to the point of forcing the layoff of most field and office staff. *The New American* magazine, unique in the world, will be damaged. In time the ultimate harm could be fatal.

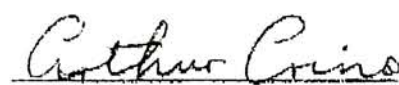
It is our serious hope that Mr. Smith will do the honorable thing and resign and accept the grateful thanks for all his achievements and allow the Executive Committee to appoint a successor.

The Society is blessed with great talent, dedication, and history. We pray that any change in leadership can be done without public clamor or loss of momentum.

  
Robert Bell

  
William Blewster

  
William Cherry

  
Arthur Crino

  
George DeWeiler

  
David Eisenberg

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John Fall  
JOHN FALL

James Fitzgerald  
James Fitzgerald

William Jasper  
William Jasper

John F. McManus  
John F. McManus

F. Ward Rowley  
F. Ward Rowley

Hal Shurtleff  
Hal Shurtleff

Arthur Thompson  
Arthur Thompson

George B. Wallace  
George Wallace

Cliff Wasem and Family  
Cliff Wasem  
and Family

Larry Waters  
Larry Waters

Ray Clark  
Ray Clark

Glenn Schmitz  
Glenn Schmitz